



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NINE SENTENCED IN DRUG CONSPIRACY CASE

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced today that nine defendants involved in a drug trafficking conspiracy were sentenced by United States District Judge Robert Junell in federal court in Midland. The June 2007 indictment alleged that the defendants conspired to possess with intent to distribute and did distribute more than 1000 kilograms of marijuana, more than 5 kilos of cocaine, and/or more than 50 grams of "crack" cocaine. Each of the defendants sentenced today had pled guilty previously, while the tenth defendant in the indictment, Crystal Munoz, 28, of Odessa, was found guilty in an October 2007 jury trial and remains incarcerated pending her sentencing hearing later this month.

Sentenced today were:

Jose Luis Cruz, aka "Gordo," 48, of Odessa, to 262 months imprisonment;
Daniel Longoria, 27, of Odessa, to 188 months imprisonment;
Abelardo Davila, 34, of Odessa, to 108 months imprisonment;
Gabriel Perez, aka "Gambini," 32, of Midland, to 240 months imprisonment;
Patricia Samaniego, 34, of Midland, to 180 months imprisonment;
Terrence Gibson, 22, of Midland, to 151 months imprisonment;
Nakisha Johnson, 28, of Midland, to 87 months imprisonment;
Abraham Frias, 26, of Ojinaga, Mexico, to 70 months imprisonment;
Ernesto Alaniz, 50, of Odessa, to 57 months imprisonment.

The defendants also face various terms of supervised release following incarceration. This case was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration and prosecuted for the government by Assistant United States Attorney Jeff Parras.

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